



10/531,146

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hoehne et al. Examiner: Guy G. Anderson  
Serial No.: 10/531,146 Group Art Unit: 2883  
Filed: March 29, 2006 Docket No.: 2316.2104USWO  
Title: DISTRIBUTOR SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FIBRE OPTIC CABLES

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 July 13, 2007.

By: Rebecca Krueger  
Name: Rebecca Krueger

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided.

The four foreign references were cited in a foreign examination report in a related application. Applicants note U.S. Patent No. 5,655,044 appears to be an English language equivalent to German reference no. DE4442823. U.S. Patent No. 6,081,644 appears to be an English language equivalent of European reference no. 0872750.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

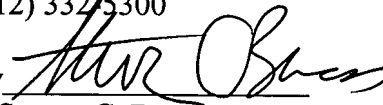
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P. C  
P. O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: July 13, 2007

By   
Steven C. Bruess  
Reg. No. 34,130  
SCB/JKS:rlk



FORM 1449\*

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

## IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

2316.2104USWO

Application Number:

10/531,146

Applicant: Hoehne et al.

Filing Date: March 29, 2006

Group Art Unit: 2883



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,655,044	08/05/1997	Finzel et al.			
	6,081,644	06/27/2000	Stateczny et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	DE 29504191U	03/28/1996	Germany				
	DE4442823 A1	06/05/1996	Germany			See IDS	
	EP215668 B1	12/19/1990	Europe				
	EP0872750 B1	12/12/2001	Europe			See IDS	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.